

FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Enclosures referred to in the Agenda are available for inspection at each of the three Public Libraries in Fairfield, Fairfield Public Schools' website <http://www.fairfieldschools.org/> and the Education Center, 501 Kings Highway East. The public is requested to silence all devices.

Board of Education Regular Meeting Agenda
501 Kings Highway East, 2nd Floor Board Conference Room
November 17, 2015

Regular Meeting

Immediately following Organizational Meeting

1. Call to Order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Student Reports
Fairfield Ludlowe High School: Mr. Nene, Ms. Frango
Fairfield Warde High School: Ms. Ashley Agrello, Ms. Brittany Shuster
4. Public Comment
*During this period the Board will accept public comment on all items pertaining to this meeting's agenda from any citizen present at the meeting. Any single presentation must be limited to **three** minutes. *Per BOE By-Law, Article V, Section 6 (8560, approved at the 1/13/2015 Regular BOE Meeting). Those wishing to videotape or take photographs must do so as inconspicuously as possible and in such manner as to not disturb the proceedings of the Board of Education (CGS §1-226).*
5. Old Business
 - A. Review Second Year of Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Plans, Mrs. Leffert
 - B. Approval of Redistricting Guidelines, Mr. Dwyer
Recommended Motion: "that the Board of Education approve the Guiding Principles for Redistricting as enclosed"
(Enclosure No. 1)
6. New Business
 - A. Approval to disband the Redistricting Committee, Mr. Dwyer
Recommended Motion: "that the Board of Education disband the Redistricting Committee effective November 17, 2015"
 - B. First Quarter Financial Report, Mrs. Munsell
(Enclosure No. 2)
 - C. Discussion of 2016-2017 Program Initiatives and Budget Implications, Dr. Title
(Enclosure No. 3)
 - D. Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Fairfield Educational Paraprofessionals Union CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, CTW and the Fairfield Board of Education, July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016 *

The Board of Education may convene to Executive Session to discuss Business Item D. **Voting will be done in public session.*

Recommended Motion: "that the Board of Education hereby moves into Executive Session to discuss records, reports and statements of strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining in accordance with Connecticut General Statute CGS §1-210(b)(9), and invite Mrs. Leffert to attend"

Recommended Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Fairfield Educational Paraprofessionals Union CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, CTW and the Fairfield Board of Education, July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016”

7. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes of the October 6, 2015 Regular Meeting

Recommended Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the October 6, 2015 Regular Meeting”

(Enclosure No. 4)

B. Approval of Minutes of the October 20, 2015 Special Meeting

Recommended Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the October 20, 2015 Special Meeting”

(Enclosure No. 5)

8. Superintendent’s Report

9. Committee/Liaison Reports

10. Open Board Comment

11. Adjournment

Recommended Motion: “that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 8, 2015	Board of Education Regular Meeting 7:30 pm	501 Kings Hwy East, 2 nd Floor Board Conference Room
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RELOCATION POLICY NOTICE

The Fairfield Public Schools System provides services to ensure students, parents and other persons have access to meetings, programs and activities. The School System will relocate programs in order to ensure accessibility of programs and activities to disabled persons. To make arrangements please contact Pupil & Special Education Services, 501 Kings Highway East, Fairfield, CT 06825, Telephone: (203) 255-8379



Redistricting: Guiding Principles

edited by the Redistricting Ad-Hoc Committee, 10/15/2015

1. Established neighborhoods should be maintained
 - a. Natural and manmade boundaries (rivers, highways) shall be reviewed when determining attendance lines
2. Consider the impact on Busing and Walkers
 - a. Students currently allowed to walk to school should be able to maintain that status
 - b. Long bus rides are to be avoided
3. Safety issues shall be considered
 - a. Traffic patterns
 - b. Walking patterns
4. Phase out all temporary solutions (portable)
5. Headroom capacities - 90% shall be maintained
 - a. Consider deficiencies of existing facilities
6. Maintain District Guidelines for class size
7. Siblings should attend same schools
 - a. Avoid crossing feeder plans
 - b. Grandfather 5th graders
8. Create the least amount of disruption

Fairfield Public Schools

2015 – 2016

Quarterly Financial Report as of September 30, 2015

Summary

Financial reports for the first quarter of the fiscal year (July, August, and September) are always preliminary. The beginning of the school year is typically when expenditures fluctuate as school staff assignments are finalized and salary/benefit costs stabilize. Additional certified staff were hired based on the distribution of elementary students and class size requirements, in addition to course enrollment patterns at the high schools. An additional 8 retirees and staff turnover will just about offset the additional staffing so we will not have any significant balance in this account at year end.

Nearly 90% of our \$161,215,640 budget appropriation has been expended or encumbered in this first quarter. A sizable amount of contractual and/or fixed costs are not encumbered i.e., utilities, general repairs and maintenance, student activity salaries, part-time salaries, some benefits, and instructional materials. A description of each major expense category and its dynamics is provided below along with the key factors that impact account balances.

Personnel Services

Personnel services is the single largest budget classification at 64% of the budget or approximately \$102.7 million. This category includes contracted salaries, hourly wages, extra-curricular stipends and substitute pay. The largest balance in personnel services is part-time employment, primarily for substitutes and overtime which are paid as incurred and therefore are not encumbered. Extra-curricular stipends are encumbered when staff are hired for the season. There is an increase of 13.3 FTE's in staffing from 1464.4 FTE's to 1477.7 FTE's. An additional 10.9 FTE's were hired in certified positions and 2.4 FTE's in non-certified positions. The FTE increase in certified staff is net of various staffing adjustments across the district. The additional non-certified positions, 2.0 FTE's Special Education Trainers and .4 FTE Paraprofessional, are the result of changes in special education student needs.

Fixed Charges

17 % of the budget is allotted for employee benefits which are categorized as fixed charges. This report reflects our contribution to the medical retention fund and the majority of the contribution to the town pension. The total contribution to the town pension for the year will be \$78,000 more than budgeted because of a change in the mortality tables used by the Town's consultant following Board of Education budget approval. Social security and life insurance are paid as incurred throughout the year.

Pupil Personnel Expenses

Special education costs, with the exception of salaries, transportation and capital, are included in this category. This classification of expenditures is the most volatile, as expenses are determined by the special needs of individual students and state excess cost reimbursement for qualifying expenses. The initial excess cost reimbursement, received in February, is based on anticipated costs filed by Pupil Services in December. The first quarter financial report indicates a negative balance of approximately \$1.4 million in pupil personnel expenses; however, excess cost reimbursement is expected to offset a large portion, if not all, of these costs. We will not have a more definitive number for excess cost reimbursement until December. The final status of this category is impossible to determine until much later in the fiscal year.

In an effort to provide increased services to special education and non-special education students with significant emotional, psychiatric and behavioral difficulties at the high school level, Pupil Services contracted with Effective School Solutions. The increased services allow us to retain students in district who would otherwise be outplaced, and has allowed us to start returning outplaced students to the district. Accordingly, there is a budget transfer from the out-of-district tuition account to the Pupil Personnel Services professional consultant account.

School Expenses

These expenditures support instruction and activities at the building level and include supplies, materials, textbooks, copying, sports and other activities. There is a balance of approximately 54 % in this category which is reasonable with only one month of school activity in this quarter.

Support Expenses

Program implementation, centrally funded instructional programs, non-special education tuition and central support operations are included here. Program implementation and instructional supplies/materials expenses are incurred in the same manner as school expenses. Professional / Technical, maintenance services (software/network maintenance), security and postage indirectly support school operations and are expended on a contractual or as-needed basis. Security expenses appear to be over budget currently but the account will be offset with high school parking revenue later in the year.

Maintenance/Operation/Transportation

Maintenance, operations and transportation account for 10 % of the total budget. Preliminary encumbrances for transportation are included in this report except for special education transportation.

Approximately 27 % of the budget in this category is designated for utilities. Total utility costs are difficult to project accurately. Consequently, they are paid as incurred rather than encumbered. Electric and heating rates were budgeted at contractual rates for the entire fiscal year as they were available early in the budget process. Distribution and transportation charges for these utilities are not contracted, and remain variable as is usage.

The budget of \$ 3.7 million for maintenance services is for preventative maintenance, repairs and major maintenance projects. Maintenance projects are scheduled based on priority and accessibility to the buildings and/or grounds. Whenever possible, certain projects are held in abeyance as a budgetary precaution. Other contractual services have been encumbered but general repair and maintenance accounts are expended as needed.

Capital

The capital budget totals approximately \$1.8 million and approximately 75% of the funding has been expended or encumbered. Equipment purchases are processed throughout the year as needed but the majority are purchased in the spring.

Submitted: November 12, 2015

Doreen T. Munsell

Statement of Account - Summary by Major Classification

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Fairfield Public Schools Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Major Classification	Appropriation As Adopted	Spec Approp and Transfers	Appropriation Amended	Total Expenditures	Outstanding Encumbrance	Outstanding Requisitions	Unencumbered Balance	% Used
Personnel Services	102,677,214.00	\$0.00	102,677,214.00	\$15,106,316.78	\$83,375,565.37	\$0.00	\$4,195,331.85	95.91%
Fixed Charges	\$26,642,402.00	\$0.00	\$26,642,402.00	\$24,683,606.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,958,795.34	92.65%
Pupil Personnel Expense	\$6,644,775.00	\$0.00	\$6,644,775.00	\$2,925,217.96	\$4,821,601.18	\$273,020.92	(\$1,375,065.06)	120.69%
School Expenses	\$2,775,591.00	\$0.00	\$2,775,591.00	\$421,017.22	\$810,137.98	\$56,857.83	\$1,487,577.97	46.41%
Support Expenses	\$3,782,237.00	\$0.00	\$3,782,237.00	\$1,641,493.33	\$417,119.25	\$40,345.38	\$1,683,279.04	55.50%
Maint/Oper/Trans	\$16,914,492.00	\$0.00	\$16,914,492.00	\$4,142,243.96	\$4,650,970.55	\$18,392.35	\$8,102,885.14	52.10%
Capital	\$1,778,929.00	\$0.00	\$1,778,929.00	\$1,136,441.10	\$186,941.67	\$6,787.01	\$448,759.22	74.77%
Grand Total	\$161,215,640.00	\$0.00	161,215,640.00	\$50,056,337.01	\$94,262,336.00	\$395,403.49	\$16,501,563.50	89.76%

**Statement of Account - Summary by
Major Classification and Summary Object**

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Fairfield Public Schools
Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Major Classification Summary Object	Appropriation As Adopted	Spec Approp and Transfers	Appropriation Amended	Total Expenditures	Outstanding Encumbrance	Outstanding Requisitions	Unencumbered Balance	% Used
Personnel Services								
101 TEACHING STAFF	\$69,459,207.00	(\$729,798.00)	\$68,729,409.00	\$8,192,544.65	\$60,536,880.76	\$0.00	(\$16.41)	100.00%
103 CERTIFIED SUPPORT STAFF	\$6,581,621.00	(\$242,822.00)	\$6,338,799.00	\$776,780.05	\$5,562,026.85	\$0.00	(\$7.90)	100.00%
105 SCHOOL ADMIN STAFF	\$5,901,372.00	(\$38,837.66)	\$5,862,534.34	\$1,683,586.35	\$4,178,949.78	\$0.00	(\$1.79)	100.00%
107 CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION STAFF	\$1,071,295.00	\$27,017.00	\$1,098,312.00	\$316,820.90	\$781,491.06	\$0.00	\$0.04	100.00%
109 DIRECTOR/SUPERVISOR/MGR	\$627,475.00	\$22,483.83	\$649,958.83	\$187,541.55	\$462,417.31	\$0.00	(\$0.03)	100.00%
111 SECRETARIAL/CLERCL STAFF	\$3,501,632.00	(\$18,658.00)	\$3,482,974.00	\$751,086.92	\$2,731,888.71	\$0.00	(\$1.63)	100.00%
113 PARAPROFESSIONAL STAFF	\$3,332,583.00	(\$99,223.00)	\$3,233,360.00	\$419,055.37	\$2,814,287.42	\$0.00	\$17.21	100.00%
115 CUSTODIAN STAFF	\$4,050,300.00	(\$175,001.00)	\$3,875,299.00	\$1,118,305.85	\$2,756,996.23	\$0.00	(\$3.08)	100.00%
117 MAINTENANCE STAFF	\$1,044,121.00	\$17,644.00	\$1,061,765.00	\$307,393.57	\$754,371.54	\$0.00	(\$0.11)	100.00%
121 SUPPORT STAFF	\$1,357,512.00	(\$16,525.29)	\$1,340,986.71	\$324,986.62	\$1,015,999.89	\$0.00	\$0.20	100.00%
123 INFO TECH SUPPORT STAFF	\$853,729.00	\$85.76	\$853,814.76	\$223,859.43	\$629,955.21	\$0.00	\$0.12	100.00%
125 SE TRAINER STAFF	\$768,828.00	(\$7,624.00)	\$761,204.00	\$214,420.47	\$546,783.41	\$0.00	\$0.12	100.00%
129 PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT	\$2,623,937.00	\$0.00	\$2,623,937.00	\$589,286.78	\$261,707.10	\$0.00	\$1,772,943.12	32.43%
131 WAGE/BENEFIT RESERVE	\$496,356.00	(\$103,533.76)	\$392,822.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$392,822.24	0.00%
133 STAFF REPLACEMENT	(\$460,000.00)	\$1,458,894.56	\$998,894.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$998,894.56	0.00%
135 DEGREE CHANGES	\$137,522.00	(\$94,102.44)	\$43,419.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$43,419.56	0.00%
307 OTHER SERVICES	\$1,329,724.00	\$0.00	\$1,329,724.00	\$648.27	\$341,810.10	\$0.00	\$987,265.63	25.75%
Total for Personnel Services	102,677,214.00	\$0.00	102,677,214.00	\$15,106,316.78	\$83,375,565.37	\$0.00	\$4,195,331.85	95.91%
Fixed Charges								
201 HEALTH INSURANCE	\$22,336,918.00	\$0.00	\$22,336,918.00	\$22,333,168.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,750.00	99.98%
203 LIFE/DISABILITY INSURANCE	\$262,025.00	\$0.00	\$262,025.00	\$76,685.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$185,339.53	29.27%
205 SOCIAL SECURITY	\$2,241,459.00	\$0.00	\$2,241,459.00	\$436,378.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,805,080.46	19.47%
207 PENSION/RETIREMENT	\$1,802,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,802,000.00	\$1,837,374.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$35,374.65)	101.96%
Total for Fixed Charges	\$26,642,402.00	\$0.00	\$26,642,402.00	\$24,683,606.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,958,795.34	92.65%
Pupil Personnel Expense								
301 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$40,500.00	\$0.00	\$40,500.00	\$5,004.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35,495.64	12.36%
303 PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$968,571.00	\$595,000.00	\$1,563,571.00	\$507,131.56	\$1,087,575.00	\$0.00	(\$31,135.56)	101.99%
307 OTHER SERVICES	\$234,100.00	\$0.00	\$234,100.00	\$123,718.90	\$185,380.00	\$70,933.30	(\$145,932.20)	162.34%
315 RENTALS	\$14,350.00	\$0.00	\$14,350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,070.00	\$280.00	98.05%
317 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION	\$163,401.00	\$0.00	\$163,401.00	\$12,574.40	\$0.00	\$185,466.44	(\$34,639.84)	121.20%
319 CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	\$95,770.00	\$0.00	\$95,770.00	\$1,610.59	\$18,408.41	\$0.00	\$75,751.00	20.90%
327 PRINTING/COPYING	\$6,800.00	\$0.00	\$6,800.00	\$1,128.77	\$5,536.87	\$0.00	\$134.36	98.02%
329 TUITION	\$4,986,583.00	(\$595,000.00)	\$4,391,583.00	\$2,205,780.79	\$3,504,755.30	\$0.00	(\$1,318,953.09)	130.03%
401 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPLS/MATLS	\$110,000.00	\$0.00	\$110,000.00	\$53,668.63	\$15,225.09	\$2,113.38	\$38,992.90	64.55%
404 SPLS, BKS, MATLS-DIST SUPPORT	\$15,500.00	\$0.00	\$15,500.00	\$7,774.15	\$2,422.92	\$329.80	\$4,973.13	67.92%
411 TEXTBOOKS	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,426.71	\$2,098.95	\$108.00	(\$1,633.66)	123.34%
415 OTHER SUPPLIES/MATERIALS	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$198.64	\$0.00	\$801.36	19.86%
601 DUES AND FEES	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$399.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.90	33.26%
Total for Pupil Personnel Expense	\$6,644,775.00	\$0.00	\$6,644,775.00	\$2,925,217.96	\$4,821,601.18	\$273,020.92	(\$1,375,065.06)	120.69%

**Statement of Account - Summary by
Major Classification and Summary Object**

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Fairfield Public Schools
Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Major Classification Summary Object	Appropriation As Adopted	Spec Approp and Transfers	Appropriation Amended	Total Expenditures	Outstanding Encumbrance	Outstanding Requisitions	Unencumbered Balance	% Used
School Expenses								
129 PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$431.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,568.81	2.87%
301 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$21,745.00	\$0.00	\$21,745.00	\$1,615.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,130.00	7.43%
307 OTHER SERVICES	\$67,275.00	\$0.00	\$67,275.00	\$677.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$66,598.00	1.01%
315 RENTALS	\$132,558.00	\$0.00	\$132,558.00	\$390.00	\$67,100.00	\$0.00	\$65,068.00	50.91%
317 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION	\$42,840.00	\$0.00	\$42,840.00	\$0.00	\$15,050.00	\$4,200.00	\$23,590.00	44.93%
319 CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	\$75,130.00	\$0.00	\$75,130.00	\$6,696.29	\$5,949.10	\$825.00	\$61,659.61	17.93%
327 PRINTING/COPYING	\$259,877.00	\$0.00	\$259,877.00	\$40,939.74	\$159,084.59	\$3,000.00	\$56,852.67	78.12%
400 SUPPLIES, BOOKS & MATERIALS	\$1,476,959.00	(\$307.00)	\$1,476,652.00	\$289,263.47	\$388,548.70	\$36,187.01	\$762,652.82	48.35%
402 INSTRUCTIONAL SPLS-DIST SUPPRT	\$41,000.00	\$0.00	\$41,000.00	\$3,728.24	\$18,423.49	\$94.89	\$18,753.38	54.26%
409 STUDENT ACTIVITY EXPENSES	\$596,940.00	\$0.00	\$596,940.00	\$54,324.31	\$151,967.20	\$10,958.15	\$379,690.34	36.39%
415 OTHER SUPPLIES/MATERIALS	\$20,002.00	\$307.00	\$20,309.00	\$1,781.95	\$3,779.90	\$1,592.78	\$13,154.37	35.23%
601 DUES AND FEES	\$26,265.00	\$0.00	\$26,265.00	\$21,170.03	\$235.00	\$0.00	\$4,859.97	81.50%
Total for School Expenses	\$2,775,591.00	\$0.00	\$2,775,591.00	\$421,017.22	\$810,137.98	\$56,857.83	\$1,487,577.97	46.41%
Support Expenses								
301 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$70,074.00	(\$6,537.00)	\$63,537.00	\$11,640.06	\$5,784.30	\$7,500.00	\$38,612.64	39.23%
305 PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL SVCS	\$648,966.00	\$0.00	\$648,966.00	\$61,864.17	\$1,656.10	\$3,000.00	\$582,445.73	10.25%
307 OTHER SERVICES	\$19,776.00	\$0.00	\$19,776.00	\$18,406.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,370.00	93.07%
309 SECURITY SVCS/EXPENSES	\$160,000.00	\$0.00	\$160,000.00	\$35,368.49	\$146,263.31	\$2,200.00	(\$23,831.80)	114.89%
313 MAINTENANCE SERVICES	\$599,367.00	\$0.00	\$599,367.00	\$422,441.90	\$65,046.68	\$8,952.00	\$102,926.42	82.83%
319 CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	\$48,900.00	\$0.00	\$48,900.00	\$4,343.41	\$36,143.77	\$3,750.00	\$4,662.82	90.46%
321 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$567,501.00	\$4,787.00	\$572,288.00	\$206,611.64	\$25,564.62	\$5,200.00	\$334,911.74	41.48%
323 POSTAGE	\$74,738.00	\$0.00	\$74,738.00	\$27,773.17	\$11,426.83	\$0.00	\$35,538.00	52.45%
325 PERSONNEL/RECRUITMENT EXP	\$26,000.00	\$0.00	\$26,000.00	\$25,241.95	\$105.00	\$0.00	\$653.05	97.49%
327 PRINTING/COPYING	\$72,600.00	\$0.00	\$72,600.00	\$10,158.42	\$41,115.92	\$0.00	\$21,325.66	70.63%
329 TUITION	\$344,541.00	\$0.00	\$344,541.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$344,541.00	0.00%
401 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPLS/MATLS	\$908,564.00	\$1,750.00	\$910,314.00	\$724,271.67	\$51,634.30	\$483.89	\$133,924.14	85.29%
403 OFFICE/GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$15,250.00	\$0.00	\$15,250.00	\$3,034.63	\$5,942.90	\$500.00	\$5,772.47	62.15%
404 SPLS, BKS, MATLS-DIST SUPPORT	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00	\$1,443.66	\$3,594.04	\$1,378.49	\$2,583.81	71.29%
411 TEXTBOOKS	\$5,330.00	\$0.00	\$5,330.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,330.00	0.00%
415 OTHER SUPPLIES/MATERIALS	\$148,465.00	\$0.00	\$148,465.00	\$47,530.16	\$19,478.48	\$6,981.00	\$74,475.36	49.84%
424 OTHER SUPPLIES	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,363.00	\$0.00	\$4,637.00	42.04%
601 DUES AND FEES	\$55,165.00	\$0.00	\$55,165.00	\$41,364.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$13,401.00	75.71%
Total for Support Expenses	\$3,782,237.00	\$0.00	\$3,782,237.00	\$1,641,493.33	\$417,119.25	\$40,345.38	\$1,683,279.04	55.50%
Maint/Oper/Trans								
305 PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL SVCS	\$70,000.00	\$0.00	\$70,000.00	\$10,299.50	\$91,006.50	\$0.00	(\$31,306.00)	144.72%
311 UTILITY SERVICES	\$4,623,881.00	\$0.00	\$4,623,881.00	\$962,770.65	\$223,282.43	\$0.00	\$3,437,827.92	25.65%
313 MAINTENANCE SERVICES	\$3,712,948.00	\$0.00	\$3,712,948.00	\$750,180.40	\$1,553,637.65	\$6,392.35	\$1,402,737.60	62.22%
317 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION	\$7,641,957.00	\$0.00	\$7,641,957.00	\$2,177,175.33	\$2,528,164.17	\$0.00	\$2,936,617.50	61.57%
319 CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	\$34,100.00	\$0.00	\$34,100.00	\$5,252.56	\$25,894.19	\$0.00	\$2,953.25	91.34%
321 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$55,395.00	\$0.00	\$55,395.00	\$17,946.65	\$2,424.40	\$0.00	\$35,023.95	36.77%
424 OTHER SUPPLIES	\$315,211.00	\$0.00	\$315,211.00	\$104,204.90	\$111,746.48	\$0.00	\$99,259.62	68.51%
429 MAINTENANCE/REPAIR SUPPLIES	\$461,000.00	\$0.00	\$461,000.00	\$114,413.97	\$114,814.73	\$12,000.00	\$219,771.30	52.33%
Total for Maint/Oper/Trans	\$16,914,492.00	\$0.00	\$16,914,492.00	\$4,142,243.96	\$4,650,970.55	\$18,392.35	\$8,102,885.14	52.10%
Capital								
501 CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$366,500.00	\$0.00	\$366,500.00	\$25,651.38	\$33,910.53	\$1,309.92	\$305,628.17	16.61%
503 TECHNOLOGY	\$1,412,429.00	\$0.00	\$1,412,429.00	\$1,110,789.72	\$153,031.14	\$5,477.09	\$143,131.05	89.87%
Total for Capital	\$1,778,929.00	\$0.00	\$1,778,929.00	\$1,136,441.10	\$186,941.67	\$6,787.01	\$448,759.22	74.77%
Grand Total	161,215,640.00	\$0.00	161,215,640.00	\$50,056,337.01	\$94,262,336.00	\$395,403.49	\$16,501,563.50	89.76%



Fairfield Public Schools
2016-2017 Budget Development
Program Improvements under Consideration

1. Textbooks/Instructional Materials

District Improvement Plan Specific Action 1-6

Total cost: \$1,089,124

- World Language: purchase remainder of the textbooks for Latin, Spanish and French levels 30 and 40: \$196,575
- Social Studies: purchase textbooks and resource materials to support the revised Social Studies curriculum for all courses and grades K – 12 which will be presented to the Board in May 2016: \$764,424
- Improve instruction of phonemic awareness and fluency among teachers, K-2 and increase the presence of core and remedial instructional materials in all classrooms: \$128,125

Rationale

When the World Language curriculum was approved in May 2015, the Board also approved new textbooks for these courses. Last year, we purchased books for levels 10 and 20 in Spanish, French and Latin. In 2016-2017 we need to purchase the Level 30 and 40 textbooks.

The Social Studies curriculum will be presented to the Board in May 2016 along with recommended textbooks. In reviewing the textbooks currently in use, we found that the age of the books varied from 16 years for U.S. History to 6 years for Grade 6 World Regional Studies. The most recent purchase was the AP Psychology text which was approved in June 2014 when that level of Psychology was approved.

There is potential to improve early diagnosis and remediation of student literacy difficulties. Specifically, we need to build upon the current instructional strengths of teachers with a greater focus on the identifying and remediating dyslexia. The adoption of STAR early literacy in grades K-2 allows us to determine reading difficulties at an earlier age. Our intent is to develop capacity among all K-2 classroom teachers and Language Arts Specialists to deliver appropriate interventions for students. In addition, schools currently have one set of intervention materials that are intended to improve phonemic awareness and fluency. We need additional materials to support all classrooms.

2. Program Assessment

District Improvement Plan Specific Action 2.4, 2.7

Total Cost: \$25,240

- PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 8/9 for all grade 9, 10 and 11 students given on a school day

Assessment	Cost per student	Number of students	Total Cost
PSAT/NMSQT	\$12	1570	\$18,840
PSAT 8/9	\$8	800	\$6,400

Rationale

The school day PSAT for all students in grades 9, 10 and 11 will allow us to collect standardized data for our students in order to support their continued learning as well as monitor district-wide curriculum. The PSAT/NMSQT results will also provide a practice opportunity for our students prior to the spring administration of the SAT, which is now the required state assessment.

3. Middle School Music

District Improvement Plan Specific Action 1.26

Total Cost: \$75,842

- Update the Music Keyboarding Course in grades 6 -8 and provide a music course for all middle school students

Cost per school:	
Software (Piano Suite Premier)	\$990
Equipment (Portable keyboards, pedals, headphones, cables)	\$5230
Computers	\$10,400
Total per school	\$16,620
Total equipment for all middle schools	\$49, 860

- Add additional staff in order to provide general music to all students not in chorus, band or orchestra. This would require an additional .4 music teacher total

Total additional staff for all middle schools	
.4 music teacher	\$25,982

Rationale

In middle school, students have a choice of chorus, band, orchestra and music keyboarding to fulfill the music component of the middle school program. As part of a review of the middle school elective program, we noted that music keyboarding is offered inconsistently across the three middle schools. In all schools, some grade 8 students are allowed to take a study hall in place of any music class. In addition, music keyboarding is offered in various schedule arrangements: twice a week all year, three times a week all year, or three times a week for one semester, depending on the middle school.

Also, the keyboard equipment is no longer manufactured by Yamaha. As keyboards break, these cannot be replaced and expensive repairs are required.

Finally, the music teachers and middle school administrators recommend using a software program in the middle school that is aligned to the piano keyboard course taught at the high schools. The following proposal would standardize the frequency of music classes, update equipment and eliminate study halls in the middle school:

1. Purchase portable keyboards that plug directly into the computers.
2. Include with this purchase, pedals, headphones and cables and the Piano Suite Premier software which is used at the high school.
3. Add .4 music teacher to middle school staffing to ensure that music keyboarding is taught three times a week in all middle schools.

4. Technology

District Improvement Plan Specific Action 4.7

Total Cost: \$104,550

- Begin rollout of document cameras in each school, 10@17 schools@ \$615 = \$104,550

Rationale

The use of document cameras in each school will provide classroom teachers the opportunity to share student writing, historical documents, art work, etc., for discussion purposes to solicit feedback from students. When surveyed, teachers across the district named document cameras as their greatest technological need to support instruction.

5. World Language Program

District Improvement Plan Specific Action 1.1

Grade 3 Total Cost: \$127,665 (Recommended)

Grades K – 2 Total Cost: \$256,581 (Option, recommended for 2017-2018)

- Add world language instruction to elementary grades

Rationale

A review of the Fairfield Public Schools' middle and elementary World Language program was conducted in the fall of 2014. As a result, the administration proposed and the Board of Education supported, expanding the grade 6 World Language program. The grades 4 and 5 program was recommended to remain at two 25-minute sessions per week for the 2015-16 school year. It was requested that the administration review the elementary World Language program this year and make recommendations on further expansion in 2016-17. We have concluded our review with a continued commitment to design a program that addresses the mission of the Board; specifically, that we prepare each student to be a "...successful participant in an ever changing global society." The opportunity to learn a second language supports that goal.

Currently, students in grades 4 and 5 receive instruction in Spanish. The curriculum is delivered twice a week for 25 minutes for each session.

Our ultimate goal is to continue the expansion of the World Language program from Kindergarten to grade 3. Instruction in grades K-1 would be delivered once a week for 25 minutes. In Grades 2-5, students would receive instruction twice a week for 25 minutes. We believe it would be most impactful if the language is consistent (Spanish) in the elementary program. We estimate costs for this full expansion as follows:

Grade	FTE	Salary	Materials	Curriculum	Total
K	0.9	\$61,708	\$2000	\$750	\$64,458
1	0.9	\$61,708	\$2000	\$750	\$64,458
2	1.9	\$123,415	\$2750	\$1500	\$127,665
3	1.9	\$123,415	\$2,750	\$1500	\$127,665
Totals	5.6	\$370,246	\$9,500	\$4,500	\$384,246

We face several factors as we expand the program. We are mindful of the impact that additional programs requirements will have on the instructional minutes of our core programs. The revisions of Social Studies curriculum next year and the Science curriculum in 2017-18 will require an expansion of those program minutes. Further, we are mindful of the program expansion's impact on the budget. Finally, there is a shortage area in teachers certified in World Languages. Hiring as many teachers as we need in one year poses risks to ensuring highly qualified instructors in front of every student.

Our recommendation remains to start world language instruction in Kindergarten. However, to promote meaningful program expansion, assure staffing, and minimize budget impact we are recommending that the current grade 4 and 5 schedule be extended to grade 3. Therefore in 2016-17, all grades 3, 4, and 5 students would receive Spanish instruction twice a week for 25 minutes each session. We are recommending further program expansion in grades K-2 in 2017-2018. Grade 2 students would receive instruction for 2 periods of 25 minutes each per five day rotation. Students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 would receive instruction one period of 25 minutes each per five day rotation.

Adding grade 3 Spanish instruction as proposed will require an additional 1.9 FTE of staffing for a cost of \$120,000.

The materials cost for grade 3 will be an additional \$250 per school, or \$2750.

Adding grade 3 will require changes in the curriculum expectations and performance assessments for grades 4 and 5, and therefore we are budgeting \$2000 for curriculum revisions to grades 3-5.

Karen Parks, Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Meg Boice, Director of Secondary Education

Mr. Michael Cummings, Director of Elementary Education

November 12, 2015

**Regular Meeting Minutes
Fairfield BoE, October 6, 2015**

NOTICE: A full meeting recording can be obtained from Fairfield Public Schools. Please call 203-255-8371 for more information and/or see the FPS website (under Board Meeting Minutes) for a link to FAIRTV.

Call to Order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the Regular meeting to order at 7:35PM. Present were members Eileen Liu-McCormack (arrived 7:41PM), Marc Patten (arrived 7:37PM), Donna Karnal, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, John Convertito, Paul Fattibene, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly and John Llewellyn. Others present were Superintendent Dr. David Title, Ludlowe student representatives Mihir Nene and Isabella Frango; Warde student representatives Ashley Agrello and Brittany Shuster; members of the Central Office Leadership Team, and approximately 90 members of the public.

Mr. Dwyer took a moment of personal privilege and asked for a moment of silence to honor Selectman Tetreau's younger brother who recently passed away.

Student Reports

Ms. Agrello and Ms. Shuster reported for Fairfield Warde High School: Students are finding the new block schedule to be more efficient; Open House was well attended; PSATs will be next week; college representatives will be visiting; the Pep rally and homecoming are this week; and a thank you to Mrs. Parks and Mrs. Munsell for attending the September 17 summer reading book chat raffle.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly asked about the WIFI access at the school. The students said some parts of the building are better than others but it is excellent in the library.

Mr. Patten asked how the new block schedule was working out. The students said they are adjusting well and appreciate the extra time, especially in Physics lab.

Mr. Nene and Ms. Frango reported for Fairfield Ludlowe High School: The renovations, cafeteria expansion and student lounge have been well received; WIFI is much improved; fall sports are in full swing; senior class officers are working hard on spirit days; seniors are also in the midst of college applications; slight complaints have been heard on the new food policy; some students don't like the 10:39 early time for the first lunch wave; the new block schedule is going well, but a mid-class break has been suggested; PSATs will be given next week; and the student activity fair provided new opportunities.

Ms. Karnal asked whether there is enough time allotted between classes to get to class on time. The students said yes, the 5 minute timeframe is generous.

Mr. Patten asked about activity period and was told it occurs during the school day.

Mr. Llewellyn asked if students are allowed to move back and forth from the library to the cafeteria. The students said underclassmen can't leave the cafeteria once they are there, but students are allowed to go to the cafeteria first and then the cafeteria.

Public Comment

The following speakers spoke similarly in support of the Holland Hill expansion and renovation and were concerned about the following: impact of music and library on a cart, lack of privacy and safety for discussions, OT and PT taking place in the hallways, negative impact of overcrowding; and no dedicated room for gifted instruction. Many felt that the ed-specs and assignment of a building committee should be expedited, and the 504 capacity should be reinstated.

Trudi Durrell, Holland Hill PTA
Robyn Bilotta, Marsh Drive
Laurie Branscombe, Pemburn Drive
Gregory Jackson, Longview Avenue
Lisa and Rafael Gonzalez, Holland Hill parents

DRAFT

Kristin Tharrington, Walbin Court
Yngrid Li, Holland Hill parent
Sara White, Wilton Road
Abby Zandri, Brookmere Drive
Kerry Hind, Elderberry Lane
Chaithanya Balasubramaniam
Barbara Robbins, Jennings Road
Chrystal Moynahan, Szost Drive
Odyssa Billings, High Street

<i>Presentations</i>

Recognition of PTA Leaders

Mrs. Gerber thanked the Board of Education representatives who attend the BOE meetings and introduced several PTA leaders including: Tom Kane – Stratfield, Melanie Fox-Carvallo – Stratfield, Gina Luczaj – RLMS, Bonnie Rotelli – Stratfield and SEPTA, Adam King – Riverfield, Eric Newman – PTA Council, Monique Sudikoff – FWMS and North Stratfield, Kelly McWhinnie – North Stratfield and PTA Council, Jennifer Meehan – Holland Hill, Trudi Durrell – Holland Hill and FWMS, Lisa Broder - Burr and TMS, Neal Fink – 14-15 PTAC President.

Riverfield Elementary School Building Committee Update

Mr. Quinn, RBC Chairman, said Riverfield opened on time with the gym and pod scheduled for completion in December. He felt fortunate to have support from the Riverfield principal, Brenda Anziano. The work included 7 new classrooms, 20 updated classrooms, 7 new resource/academic support rooms and others. He mentioned that it is best to identify building deficiencies at the very beginning of the project, and work closely with the police and fire departments to reduce change orders. Mr. Quinn gave a presentation with before/after pictures and highlighted the secure entrance and air conditioning that exists throughout. Also presenting with Mr. Quinn were Mr. Stone/Ken Boroson Architects and Mr. Warrington/Colliers Group.

Mr. Patten commended the team for a job well done and said he noticed the walls in the POD area seemed stripped. Mr. Quinn stated that the footprint of that area remained largely the same; due to hazards, 200K was needed to rebuild the walls and doors in that area. He recommended that future project members understand that contingencies may be needed.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly echoed the appreciation. She asked if he would share details on why a project takes so long to complete and if he had any suggestions on how to expedite the process. Mr. Quinn said it is difficult to get the design to meet the budget and there are state, local and federal rules to follow. He recommended getting a good team up front including the architect, construction manager and the owner's rep. Mr. Stone said there was a 6 month delay due to the PCBs. It typically takes 12-14 months depending on various factors and there are multiple phases of design.

Mr. Fattibene also thanked Mr. Quinn and asked if there were any outstanding requirements. Mr. Quinn said he is not aware of any.

Mr. Convertito asked if the ed specs need to be made clearer, and whether time could be saved with a good team and up-front PCB testing. Mr. Quinn said once he got used to the jargon, ed specs were pretty clear; he said up-front PCB testing is recommended. Mr. Stone said the more up-front information that exists, the better. In this case, the environmental engineers became part of the design team.

Mr. Llewellyn thanked the team for the presentation and asked if there was pressure from the Town to bring the budget down. Mr. Quinn said his budget numbers were different than the Town's. Mr. Llewellyn agrees that going and probing up front is important. Mr. Llewellyn said that there are now 100 students under the MGT projection for Riverfield and asked what the district's plan is for the expected 5 empty classrooms once the pod is completed in December. Mr. Quinn said that is an incorrect statement; there won't be 5 empty classrooms.

Mr. Dwyer said this question is better addressed when discussing the Long-Range Facilities Plan.

Mr. Llewellyn said it's a very simple question, unless there's something to be hidden.

Mr. Convertito said the previous facilities plan that was adopted used a 504 standard to deal with the ebbs and flows of enrollment. Riverfield at one time had more students and OHS is currently over-capacity.

Mr. Fattibene made a Point of Order; he felt an additional rebuttal should be allowed. He disagreed with Mr. Convertito and said the primary reason for a 504 capacity was that, educationally, that is the optimum size for an elementary school and providing the curriculum and breadth that everyone wanted; space was secondary to that.

Mr. Dwyer said he has no doubt that the Long-Range Facilities Plan will be revisited.

Mr. Llewellyn said he is not disputing the 504 capacity, his question is what will happen with the excess space?

<i>Old Business</i>

Approval of 2016-2017 School Calendar

Mrs. Gerber moved, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded that the Board of Education approve the 2016-2017 School calendar.

Dr. Title said the school calendar follows the regional calendar.

Mr. Patten asked about the February break, as he was absent the previous meeting. Dr. Title explained that the regional calendar was a handout at the last meeting.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack asked about the region members and Dr. Title said it includes the CES region; 18 districts from Stratford to Greenwich.

Motion Passed: 9-0

Update on Holland Hill

Dr. Title said he appreciated the parent involvement and has met with PTA leadership and Holland Hill staff. He commended principal Laura Cretella for her hard work to find interim solutions with help from her staff, much like the staff at Osborn Hill during their suboptimal situation. He said he would look into the possibility of including the cost of 1 or 2 portables in the project funding for use during construction; moving the Riverfield portables is not feasible. He reviewed the timeline for project approval and said the ed-specs should be prepared in the January timeframe. It is important to get the project approved by Town bodies before June 30; that is the state deadline for project submittal and reimbursement. The fire marshal has determined there are no fire code issues currently at Holland Hill.

Mr. Convertito asked where the portables would be placed, and expressed concern that requesting portables may actually prevent the project from moving forward. Dr. Title said Mr. Morabito has reviewed the site and said space exists on the blacktop in back. Dr. Title shared the concern with moving the project forward and envisioned the portable request as part of the funding package for the project.

Mrs. Gerber asked if a letter from the Board chair to the First Selectman is needed and Dr. Title said no. Once the Board passes the ed-specs, an architect can be hired for a conceptual design and RTM approval follows. Additional funding requests can be made if there are contingencies. Mrs. Gerber asked whether ed-specs are needed for a conceptual design and whether advance work to determine the possibility of a PCB presence would make sense. Dr. Title said although early environmental work could be an advantage, it should in no way delay the June 30 deadline, and surprises could still exist. An architect could use the Long-Range Facilities Plan, rather than ed-specs, to create a conceptual design; the ed-specs could be reviewed once the BOE approves.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly asked for a timeline to hire an architect. Dr. Title said the Town's purchasing procedures are followed.

Mr. Patten asked about the cost of portables and whether a temporary architect would have to be hired if the ed-specs were approved in January. Dr. Title said a temporary architect would still be needed. The district would commit to the portables for multiple years and while the cost is approximately \$120K per portable, there are other fees such as lease cost, set-up and delivery, connecting fees, architect fees, etc.

Mrs. Gerber asked about the TPZ approval timeline. Dr. Title wasn't sure, but said portables could be in place by September 1 with RTM approval.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack asked about the monthly leasing cost and installation costs and timeline for portables and said she was interested in speeding up the portable delivery by not including it with the project's funding request, and instead use funding from the current year's budget. She asked to have this topic added to a future agenda as she was concerned about the loss to the music curriculum by not having a dedicated room. Dr. Title said the monthly leasing cost is at least \$2K per month. This would be in addition to the \$250K for both portables, among other fees. He added that there is no current source of funding to deliver portables immediately. He knows it is not optimal at HH but believes it is more prudent for getting the portables for next year. Mrs. Liu-McCormack would like to reconsider and fully vet this. Six months is a long time; some kids can cover a year's worth of work in six months; some will graduate without the benefit of all nineteen of the music teacher's instruments.

Ms. Karnal asked if we could get state reimbursement for portables if they were paid for out of this year's budget and Dr. Title said no. He said teachers are sharing space in many places with less than perfect conditions. The staff is entrusted with lessening the impact of that on instruction. Ms. Karnal asked if portables exist that have restroom facilities and was told yes. Dr. Title said security is one downfall of portables, which is why they're looking at trying to get the fencing in asap.

Mrs. Gerber said that no one on the Board is happy with the deficiencies at Holland Hill. The Board has been discussing Holland Hill for months, and some Board members have explicitly stated that they want to examine redistricting and reduce the scope of the project, and she asked the Board to unite as soon as possible to move this project forward as a 504 school.

Mr. Fattibene raised the issue that the building committee may hire a different architect than the one initially hired to do the conceptual design. He asked about the environmental hazards study that was done for each school and how far out the enrollment projections go. Dr. Title said in addition to a chlorine scan done at each school, the environmental hazards study also addressed short term issues and corrective actions were taken. In order to receive state reimbursement, enrollment projections must be at least 8 years out. Mr. Cummings said new 10-year enrollment projections should be ready by January 1.

Mr. Llewellyn said whether the Town spends 250K now or later, it is still the same cost. No one ever said Holland Hill should be delayed and he was in favor of accelerating the portable process for this school year. Just like last year, money can be found if you choose to find it and a redistricting analysis is our fiduciary duty. He recommended inviting Representatives Walsh, Bateson, and Mitola from the BOF, RTM and RTC to present their analysis for proceeding with a 504 capacity. He mentioned the 100 empty seats at Riverfield again and asked if classrooms could be shifted there. The analysis of redistricting is our fiduciary duty. No one has said we should delay this. Dr. Title said June 30 is a state deadline and the project should be moved forward so that it can be fast-tracked.

Mrs. Gerber said, in terms of the idea of not needing to add space, some Board members are on record with multiple statements at multiple Board meetings that additions do not need to be made. She clarified that renovations were not being challenged, but additions were.

Mr. Llewellyn said that being unsure is different than 'not' and an analysis should still be done, that's why they talked about redistricting.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly asked if there would be state reimbursement for the \$250K for the portables if it came from the current budget and Dr. Title said no. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said that fiduciary responsibility is important and stated that Mr. Llewellyn and Mrs. Liu-McCormack were very clear that they wanted a redistricting committee. Six Board members visited Holland Hill last year and were well aware that a 504 is needed. Board members need to do their preparation.

Mr. Convertito asked about reimbursement from the Town and Dr. Title said it would not be reimbursable as a stand-alone item. Mr. Convertito said the BOE needs to justify the 504 capacity to the RTC, not the other way around. He asked for a motion to add an item to the agenda.

Mr. Dwyer said he will discuss with Dr. Title on getting that done properly so that Holland Hill can move forward as fast as possible.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack said she has been consistent with her view on the need for renovations and has looked at both Mill Hill and Holland Hill; she's seen it herself. Her question is how many added classrooms, if any, are needed. It is

worthwhile to examine redistricting given that we do have seats across the district. Secondly, she is only now hearing the outcry from parents and believes the portables are needed imminently. Nobody had given the Board a petition. She believes that if the education is being impacted it needs to be addressed imminently. We're investigating the situation regarding whether or not Holland Hill needs to be a 504 school. A petition is a compelling argument.

Mr. Fattibene said he didn't think any BOE member questioned the need for the Holland Hill renovation, but the process involves questions regarding the ability and the timing of what actually gets done. Every member also recognized the need at Mill Hill, but the capacity question is a larger issue. If we build all of our schools to 504 we may have problems of over-capacity and may even need to look at closing an elementary school. He doesn't want to leave the Board with future problems. He asked Dr. Title if the state reimbursement would be reduced if the project is built over-capacity and was told it would be a very small reduction of approximately 1% or 2%.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said the Holland Hill voices were heard loud and clear last year. She was critical of Mrs. Liu-McCormack's suggestion to adjust the budget by \$250k based solely on the reduced number of musical instruments offered, while other deficiencies did not move her. That makes the decisions we make look suspect to other Town bodies.

Mr. Convertito finds the whole thing to be extremely disingenuous; this has been on the radar for 4 years; the question is: What do we do from here?

Mr. Patten asked Mrs. Cretella about the state of her school. Mrs. Cretella thanked Dr. Title, Holland Hill staff, parents and the BOE members who toured the school. Last year she showed the Board a map of the school that showed all of the building shortcomings. She said every single available space is being used. Holland Hill had 20 classrooms last year; this year it has 21. She believes strongly that her staff can and will deliver the curriculum, but does not want the newly-elected Board to approve a band aid solution that could impact whether or not the full project moves forward.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack said she was very moved by the parents and the Holland Hill petition and said that if Mrs. Cretella was indifferent about adding portables now then perhaps we should not add them. She believes the louder the outcry the louder the need. She asked Mrs. Cretella if she would support the acceleration of obtaining portables. Mrs. Cretella said she does not want any of her comments to be misconstrued; she strongly advocates for her building but does not want to do anything that would get in the way of moving the project forward; she believes in the Superintendent's plan.

Public Comment:

Jason Li, RTM District 8: Supports the decision to move the project forward as a 504.

Jennifer Meehan, Szost Drive: Read her daughter's letter to the BOE.

Dorene Herron, Forest Avenue: Encouraged the Board to do the project right.

Christy Vitale, Longview Avenue: Encouraged the Board to move the project forward.

Christine Vitale, Verna Hill: Encouraged the Board to move the project forward.

Rafael Gonzalez, Youngstown Road: Compelled the Board to move quicker.

Neal Fink, Crest Terrace: Recommends not opening the current year's budget. Capacity recommendation is in the purview of the Board.

Mr. Dwyer thanked the public.

<i>New Business</i>

Review of Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Plans

Mr. Llewellyn moved, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded to move item 7A on the agenda (Review Second Year of Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Plans) to the November BoE meeting.

Mr. Fattibene asked how long this item would take and was told approximately 30 minutes.

Ms. Karnal asked if there was room on the November agenda and was told yes.

Motion Passed: 9-0

Discussion of 2016-2017 Budget Ideas

Mr. Dwyer requested Board input for the upcoming budget season. The Board responded with the following ideas:

Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly

1. Commitment to Elementary Math Textbook.

Eileen Liu-McCormack

1. Commitment to Elementary Math Textbook.
2. Development and 'beefing up' of STEAM (STEM with Arts) Program in MS and HS to include computer programming and robotics.
3. Deliberate effort to restore full funding to World Language and make it deeper, skill-oriented.
4. Grammar introduction – roots, suffixes and prefixes incorporated into the curriculum. Should be equally delivered throughout system. Grammar and vocabulary equally delivered throughout elementary.

Marc Patten

1. PD for 5th grade to 6th grade transition to ensure students are more prepared for middle school.

Donna Karnal

1. Middle school to high school transition is also important and there should be focus here.
2. Advanced/Honors English course offered in middle school.

John Convertito

1. SAT Prep Class (online) funding – concerned with disparity of those students who can't afford the SAT prep class.

John Llewellyn

1. True-up actuals with budget to make the numbers more realistic. For example, there are variances in salary.
2. Preview anything added or new ahead of budget season, e.g. staff, programs, new technology, as opposed to seeing things for the first time as they hit the budget.
3. Does PSAT flow into next year – does the state pay for this?
4. Provide more detail in Professional Development to get it flushed out. For example, 17% was moved out of that to cover other costs and PD is critical to teachers.
5. Provide, ahead of time, costs associated with the implementation of District Improvement Plan.

Phil Dwyer

1. Continued commitment to building the World Language Program, K-12.

Dr. Title appreciated all the input and said the focus will be on the District Initiatives and the implementation of the District Improvement Plan. He reminded the Board that some of the items have a multi-year implementation process.

Approval of Dr. Title's Teaching Position at Sacred Heart University

Mrs. Gerber moved, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded that the Board of Education allow Dr. Title to accept a paid teaching position at Sacred Heart University on his own time on Friday nights and Saturdays for the spring 2016 semester.

Mr. Dwyer noted that while Board approval is required per superintendent contract, Dr. Title would be teaching on his own time.

Mr. Fattibene said he could not in good faith support this; the Superintendent's job is a difficult one that requires more time than the ordinary employee. It is a contract position, and the wording of the contract stipulates that this approval is necessary. As a Board member his duty is to the district, and he is concerned that the continuing time commitment with

teaching could cause a conflict and he feels it is not in the best interest of the district.

Mr. Convertito is happy to support this. It is a graduate level course that offers a chance to share expertise and is to the district's advantage and benefit.

Mr. Llewellyn cannot support this. He did support it the first time because it was a one-off. He felt the job would be a significant time commitment, if done properly, and would be setting a precedent. Where does one draw the line; first teaching, then perhaps consulting. The contract language states the Board needs to have the power of approval.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly felt the fall semester teaching did not negatively impact his work. The bonus is that Dr. Title will get to know the staff at Sacred Heart.

Mr. Patten supports this and said another bonus is that Sacred Heart candidates can be somewhat vetted ahead of time.

Ms. Karnal asked Dr. Title if he felt that this impacted his time in regards to his day job. Dr. Title said no. It is a graduate class in data analysis and school improvement; he felt it enhanced his ability; plus he is able to be a scout for potential administrators. He still has most Friday nights, every other Saturday and all Sundays to do the work of the district in addition to the hours he puts in all week.

Mr. Dwyer will support the motion as Dr. Title supports the district 150% and accomplishes the goals that have been set.

Public Comment:

Adam King, Unquowa Road: As a Fordham education student, most of his professors were superintendents and principals.

Motion Passed: 6-3

Favor: Mr. Patten, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly

Oppose: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Llewellyn

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved, Ms. Karnal seconded to extend the meeting to 11:15 pm.

Motion Passed: 9-0

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved, Mrs. Gerber seconded that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 24, 2015.

Mrs. Gerber mentioned that the minutes with Draft (2) at the top are the ones being voted on. The only difference with the original set of minutes is that Mrs. Liu-McCormack's name was inadvertently excluded from the first paragraph.

Motion Passed: 9-0

Superintendent Report

Dr. Title said he was proud of all the AP scholars and directed the Board's attention to the AP Scholar Report that was provided. He also recently attended a Warde/Ludlowe field hockey game and was amazed at the number of students and parents in attendance, especially given the rain and wind at the time; the new turf field was a thing of beauty. He mentioned that John Reisert is a nominee for the National Tennis Coach of the Year and will compete in the regionals. He is a fine teacher and coach.

Committee/Liaison Reports

Mr. Convertito said the Redistricting Committee met last Tuesday with approximately 85 members of the public. The committee will focus on the framework for guidelines and principles for the next meeting scheduled for October 15th.

Mr. Dwyer reminded Mr. Convertito to forward all materials resulting from the meeting to Meg Brown for inclusion in the agenda.

Mr. Llewellyn confirmed with Mr. Dwyer that there will be a first read.

Mr. Fattibene said there were 3 referrals to the Transportation Committee which are under consideration and recommendations are forthcoming.

Mr. Dwyer said Mr. Fattibene has been very dedicated with his transportation committee investigations.

Open Board Comment

Mr. Dwyer reminded the Board of the CAFE conference and sign-ups.

Mr. Fattibene confirmed that his reservation will be given to a new Board member and the district is funding the conference.

Adjournment

Mrs. Gerber moved, Ms. Karnal seconded that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn.

Motion Passed 9-0

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Jessica Gerber
Fairfield Board of Education
Secretary

**Special Meeting Minutes
Fairfield BoE, October 20, 2015**

NOTICE: A full meeting recording can be obtained from Fairfield Public Schools. Please call 203-255-8371 for more information and/or see the FPS website (under Board Meeting Minutes) for a link to FAIRTV.

Call to Order of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the Special meeting to order at 7:35PM. Present were members Eileen Liu-McCormack, Marc Patten, Donna Karnal, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, John Convertito, Paul Fattibene, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly and John Llewellyn. Others present were Superintendent Dr. David Title and approximately 75 members of the public.

Business Items

Redistricting Committee Report

Mr. Dwyer reviewed the purpose of the Special Meeting - to discuss the Redistricting Committee Report and then hear and dialogue with the public. He asked those with public comment to maintain the 3 minute rule.

Mr. Convertito said the first priority of the committee was to create guidelines, as this was a step that was recommended by the consultant. The guidelines are prioritized, and were finalized at the previous meeting that was held at Sherman. He read through each of the 8 guidelines and took questions from the Board.

Mr. Patten noted a typo for guideline #1; the word “boundaries” should be added to “natural and man-made.”

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly questioned what the guidelines had been edited from, whether they were in priority order, and if any of the guidelines were controversial. Mr. Convertito said the committee had edited the guidelines from the previous meeting. They were in priority order, and most of the discussion was on headroom capacity. Some members felt that headroom should be determined by the consultant and others felt it was a programming issue.

Mr. Llewellyn asked what changed on this list versus the one from several years ago. Mr. Convertito referenced the 2013-2024 facilities plan, and said page 1-3 was the take-off point.

Mr. Dwyer added that the original facilities plan was adopted in 2010.

Mr. Llewellyn wanted to know what changed and whether Principle #1 was currently being violated. Mr. Convertito said the committee drafted its own list of guidelines, but did reference the facilities plan. The consultant would determine if #1 was being violated, but is currently addressing only the racial imbalance. The committee might piggyback on that as it relates to redistricting. Mr. Llewellyn asked if the consultant had been engaged to only work only on racial imbalance and asked if the consultants would be considering capacity.

Dr. Title said the consultant is performing preliminary work as described in the previously provided proposal; Phase 1 will focus on the racial imbalance, but that may affect capacity at multiple schools. This will take several months and will include updated projections on a per-school basis. The consultants are working on proposals for the Board’s review and approval, prior to the April CSDE meeting. Capacity will be considered as it relates to racial imbalance.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack asked what the state would do if racial imbalance cannot be solved, and what is the recourse if we don’t solve it? Dr. Title said the problem can be solved either voluntarily or involuntarily. One of the voluntary solutions is to make the school enticing in some way, both Greenwich and West Harford created new buildings and/or renovated schools for this purpose. There has been some success with the Pre-K program but it hasn’t helped enough. He said he wasn’t sure of the consequences for non-compliance, but he would not recommend being out of compliance with a state statute.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said previous Board members have suggested exactly that. She clarified that the guiding principles are for 2 different points of focus and separate issues: racial imbalance and redistricting. Mr. Convertito said that was

correct, the guidelines are for redistricting, whether it is done for racial imbalance or capacity. If the Board decides to redistrict, the same consultant should be used so as to not replicate expenses; the data would already have been gathered. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly asked about the headroom capacity and whether it was just for the elementary level. Mr. Convertito confirmed that it was and said the consensus was that it would be in the Board's purview to decide the headroom capacity. The consultant mentioned that the typical guidelines are at 85-90%.

Mr. Llewellyn asked for more information on the middle-school redistricting that was done a few years ago as it related to fill issues at Woods; he wondered whether that should be added to the guidelines in order to not forego reimbursement due to vacancies. Dr. Title said the reimbursement for FWMS was for a different purpose. Mr. Llewellyn asked if there is a risk of not receiving reimbursement for Riverfield. Dr. Title said no, the new projections will have no impact. State reimbursement happens on a rolling basis; expenses are incurred and then filed; the Board must also vote on whether to accept the project as complete, after which the state audits the project.

Mr. Dwyer asked if the guidelines will only be used for the consultant, and wanted to confirm that they will not replace those in the Long Range Facilities Plan. Mr. Convertito said these guidelines don't supplant the facilities plan guidelines. These guidelines should be strictly used for the moving of students from one school to another.

Mrs. Gerber said redistricting is a sensitive topic and asked whether there was any truth to following rumors: (1) that Riverfield will be used for a Therapeutic Day Program, and (2) regionalization; allowing students from other towns to attend our schools that have excess capacity. Dr. Title said no to both. The therapeutic day program would need its own facility; it has been discussed a couple of years ago as a possible way to address some of the high costs of outplacement, and that action on that idea has been shelved. Regionalization has never been discussed and is not in the cards. The legislature is, however, pushing to regionalize services to be more efficient and save money.

Mr. Patten confirmed that the consultants are fully aware of the redistricting committee's charge and will take that into consideration when reviewing racial imbalance. With regard to Mr. Llewellyn's question on planning principles, the redistricting committee reviewed several planning principles including Mr. Kery's guiding principles from a long-range planning subcommittee; close to 16-20 various guidelines were reviewed.

Mr. Llewellyn asked if there was a charge to change the feeder pattern. Mr. Convertito said no.

Mr. Fattibene asked if there was a requirement to report unoccupied seats to the state. Dr. Title said no. There is a facility survey that is done. Mr. Cullen agreed, there is no statutory requirement to report unused capacity.

Mr. Dwyer said this is a first read, and these principles will return to the November or December meeting.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack clarified that the consultants were retained to study racial imbalance; if they were to do a full redistricting study, they would have to be further retained. She also mentioned that some were confused over the voter redistricting and clarified that the voter redistricting is completely different than the school redistricting. Dr. Title agreed; the voting redistricting is completely separate from this issue.

Mr. Dwyer said the meeting would continue as a town-hall meeting, with public comment and Board interaction. He would moderate, rather than reply, and would hold his comments to the end of the meeting. He also reminded speakers to mind the three minute time limit.

Mrs. Gerber asked speakers to also write their name on a sign-in sheet, as provided at the table.

Matt Hutzelmann, Pansy Road: asked if Redistricting Committee could be dissolved. Doesn't understand why redistricting discussion is taking place, no one wants it. Holland Hill needs space. His children are walkers to OHS, he wants it to stay that way. Mr. Dwyer explained that this is a Special Meeting, so an agenda item cannot be added to tonight's meeting. Mr. Fattibene had a point of order – asked if this meeting is setting a precedent to start having a

dialogue with members of the public. Mr. Dwyer stated that this special meeting is similar to two previous meetings that had a “town hall” style. Mr. Dwyer asked Mr. Fattibene asked if he wanted to overturn the ruling of the Chair. Mr. Fattibene asked if this is setting a precedent. Mr. Dwyer said they should move on and listen to the public. Mr. Patten said that the committee had already had questions about dissolving the committee. The committee needs to give the consultants looking into racial imbalance some criteria for their work. Mr. Fattibene said that no one likes redistricting, but the elementary school population has declined. We need town funding to renovate Holland Hill, but there is no guarantee that we will get funding. We need to have a plan. At some point the town may say they don’t want to pay anymore. Renovating every school to a 504 capacity may get us to a place where we won’t get funding. Mrs. Gerber said that Holland Hill needs renovation and expansion. Going from a 462 to 504 plan doesn’t cost so much that we shouldn’t do it. Other town officials support a 504 for Holland Hill.

Greg Jackson 61 Longview Avenue. Concerned about conversations centering around race. We are looking at a socioeconomic disparity. Need to look at what the maps tell us. The northwest and southwest corridors of town will be less impacted by redistricting. Need to reverse disparity amongst our schools. We need to look at equity in the services being provided to all of our town’s students. All schools should be equitable. Mr. Patten said that if we had \$100 million available he would put AC in all schools and build every school to 504, but the reality is, we have a waterfall chart and a plan that we need to stick to. Holland Hill and Mill Hill are next on the list, we know we have to do them. Mr. Jackson said that children today shouldn’t pay for mistakes of the past. He realizes there aren’t unlimited funds. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said we need to look at deficiencies in our system. Neighborhood schools are important. Holland Hill has many walkers, that needs to be factored into decisions. Mrs. Liu-McCormack said that everyone on the Board is in agreement that Holland Hill and Mill Hill need renovations. Racial imbalance is beyond the Board, it is related to state statute, we need to look at this issue. A real solution is ideal. There are people being bused to schools far away, it is hard to please everyone. Mrs. Gerber clarified that most elementary schools do not have students being bused all over the place; that middle school and high school bus rides are longer because of here schools are located.

Ann Harvey, 363 Hemlock Road. Wants to thank the Board for wasting time on redistricting as it has awakened parents. Believes subcommittee was formed by Board members to do their due diligence. She does not believe this is about racial imbalance. Other town bodies want the renovations and expansions to move forward. She thanked board members’ for their lack of civility and questioned Mr. Fattibene’s hidden agenda. Mr. Fattibene said he has always been an advocate for public comment. He does not have a hidden agenda. Is concerned we will run out of money before we have the chance to get all of our schools where they need to be. He is worried about budgets being cut. Ms. Karnal said there is an issue about racial imbalance so we should look at redistricting as well. She voted for Holland Hill to go first even though she is a Mill Hill parent. Every school needs something done to it. Need to figure out where to get money. Mrs. Gerber clarified that we have a long range plan and a waterfall plan. Understands concerns about costs but we do have a plan. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said that Holland Hill was always supposed to be first, ahead of Mill Hill. In concerned that racial imbalance issue is being conflated with redistricting committee’s work. They are two separate things. The operating budget and the budget for school projects are two separate things. Other town bodies are on board with moving Holland Hill forward. There’s nothing capricious about this. Mrs. Gerber reminded everyone of the committee’s purpose, which has no mention of racial imbalance. Mr. Llewellyn read letter from the state from May regarding racial imbalance, and discussed how after that letter was received there were discussions in June regarding redistricting. Six or seven Board members mentioned redistricting. This is our fiduciary responsibility. Mr. Dwyer set up the committee. You can’t strip out racial imbalance. Mr. Fattibene said that there is a waterfall chart but we don’t have the money until it is approved. Mr. Convertito said that the placeholders were for 462 and 441. Redistricting will not

solve the problem of space issues. Every school we have renovated has come up to a 90% or higher capacity. This is a waste of time.

Tina Brown, 35 Quaker Lane. Understands frustration. Members of the public are misinformed. Board members have all said they are concerned about Holland Hill. Mrs. Liu-McCormack wanted to express appreciation that members of the public recognize that Board members spend a large amount of time on their work.

Susie Byrnes, Fairfield. Relieved that redistricting came up as a topic. In 2004 there was a redistricting done and it isn't a viable plan. Redistricting took place again in 2010 and with pre-K. There are lots of options that should be looked into for redistricting. Many children are bused all over town. It's false that no one wants redistricting. Talk to all the parents, this meeting wasn't publicized well. Mrs. Gerber said the 2010 redistricting was for all MS students because space was added. Understands that the long bus rides are difficult. Mr. Convertito said he has limited scope for his committee's charge. If we want to do a full district-wide redistricting then there has to be a different charge. Mr. Fattibene stated that there is more criteria for walkers as to whether or not there are sidewalks. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said that fiduciary responsibility, and filling seats was the criteria for forming the committee. There is a difference between neighborhood elementary schools and middle schools. Buildings aren't where they would be most convenient. Sense of community in elementary schools is vital. Mrs. Byrnes said that her neighborhood doesn't have a neighborhood school because it was taken away. Not everybody has a neighborhood school, from her perspective. It doesn't seem right. There is pre-K at Dwight and Burr, they should be looked at. Need to look at everything. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said that the ad hoc committee is looking at things only for space capacity issues. Whole Board or perhaps another subcommittee may need to look at racial imbalance, but not this ad hoc redistricting committee. Mrs. Liu-McCormack said it's appreciated that someone is saying that they want redistricting. Different people are experiencing different things. It's presumptuous to only take one perspective. Someone will be affected for each redistricting. All the information should be considered. Maybe a new commission statement needs to be written.

Trudi Durrell, Woodcrest Road, Fairfield. Redistricting did not first come up in May or June. At February 24 meeting the topic was mentioned several times. Redistricting as an idea happened in February and afterwards, not just after racial imbalance letter in May. Is concerned about constantly talking about redistricting and pairing the issue with Holland Hill and Mill Hill. Both schools require a core facilities upgrade whether you redistrict or not. Mrs. Liu-McCormack has been incredibly impressed by the Holland Hill community, it was quite a showing of solidarity. It has been recognized and heard. She thinks the Board gets it, the core upgrades needs to happen. Mr. Patten has followed school projects and the waterfall chart for many years. Holland Hill is a priority for him. Mr. Llewellyn believes the core facility upgrades at Holland Hill need to occur. Minutes from 2010 show that someone mentioned the importance of balancing K-12. Need to be responsible to taxpayers. Need to look at different possibilities before we spend \$25 million. Maybe we should get portables for Holland Hill now. Mr. Convertito wants to get ed specs going for Holland Hill, doesn't want to lose a year for Holland Hill. Portables do not help. Even if we eliminated pre-K at Burr and Dwight we would not have the seats. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said that redistricting first came up during discussions about Holland Hill and Mill Hill. Everyone agrees about core upgrades, but question remains about expansion. The Board hasn't voted on the planning principles yet, so they could change. Some areas of town do not have neighborhood schools, which she understands, but she supports the idea. Discussion that has taken place at this table is whether or not we expand Holland Hill and Mill Hill, or instead move students from those schools. She wants to make sure the public understands. Mr. Llewellyn says there is excess space at some schools that we need to look at. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly says question is regarding expansion versus redistricting. Mrs. Durrell wanted to point out that projections used for Holland Hill are old, and that their school has

bucked all enrollment projections. Also need to consider that Holland Hill is an early start school, which redistricting could impact. Mrs. Gerber said that the Holland Hill enrollment projections put them at 85-90% capacity that consultants discussed.

Pamela Iacono, Phyfe Road. Has been involved as a member of the public and on the BoE in making sure that there aren't short term fixes that end up being more costly. Is frustrated that we are still having these questions and problems about space. You need 504 at Holland Hill, that's what other town leaders have said. Read a letter from Majority leader and Deputy Majority leader on the RTM regarding advocating for 504 schools. Mr. Fattibene said that he was an advocate for proper school space. He remembers some elected officials cutting the BoE budget. He said that 40 members of the RTM need to sign off on projects, not just 2. Wanting it is not getting it done. Concerned about budget cuts. Mrs. Iacono stated that it is very different looking at operating budget and capital requests. RTM only needs a majority of only 21 to approve a project.

Adam Kane, 1084 Unquowa Road Is an educator at a magnet school in NY state, has been there 18 years, and redistricting has never been brought up in his district. Having a magnet school helps with racial imbalance. Important to have flexibility for space, which his district utilized when there was an emergency. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said that the notion of flexibility is an integral part of guiding principles, which is why she supports them. We need headroom. Need to think long-term and avoid costing ourselves more money by not understanding our history. Mr. Kane Is concerned about timing of vote on planning principles versus when the BoE election takes place. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly stated again that there are two separate issues – racial imbalance, and then also possible redistricting plan that comes out of the ad hoc committee. They should not be forced together. The public should speak out if they disagree with the guiding principles. Mr. Convertito said that the Board has to pass the guiding principles for both themselves and also for the racial imbalance consultants. We need to talk about flexibility and contingency. Mrs. Gerber mentioned the past situation at OHS with PCBs and the possibility of having to temporarily remove the students from the school, and said it illustrated how little space we have. Mr. Fattibene said that racial imbalance and potential redistricting are intertwined. There are different phases in the consultants' plan. Charge of the committee doesn't specifically mention racial imbalance but needs to be factored in to the decision making process. Mrs. Liu-McCormack said that she agreed with Mr. Fattibene and said that the criteria the committee is discussing is applicable for both the redistricting question and racial imbalance. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said that the ad hoc redistricting committee is not considering racial imbalance in its work.

Julie Gottlieb, Applegate Road, RTM deputy minority leader. Has seen Stratfield go through the space issues that Holland Hill and Mill Hill now experience. The issue of school space has been around for years, and we are now hearing the same things again. The RTM has supported capital projects over the years, they have been approved. There has been support for Holland Hill and Mill Hill at the capital planning workshop, we have missed an opportunity. Mr. Patten said Holland Hill and redistricting are not related. Mr. Fattibene agreed that the town has been supportive of education, but not every project has been supported – Oldfield for example. In the past the "pod" structure has been approved instead of brick & mortar. Getting the funding is not a guarantee. Mrs. Gottlieb thanked Mr. Convertito for his service.

Tim Kery, 7 Green Acre Lane. Spoke to the history of facilities issues in Fairfield. Concerned about Board members stating things clearly and accurately. Happy to hear that Holland Hill is a priority for the Board, asks that they support it as a 504 school. Think of long-term perspective for school projects – 20-30 years of ebbs and flows. Redistricting happens when schools open and close. Consider planning principles, which help you avoid problems of the past. Mrs.

Liu-McCormack thanked Mr. Kery for historical perspective. Mr. Fattibene said he appreciated Mr. Kery's work and advocacy. Mr. Patten thanked Mr. Kery for his work.

Gary Corrigan, Fairfield. Asked about rumors saying that Dwight would be shut down. Mrs. Liu-McCormack said she had never heard of that. Mr. Patten said he didn't see it was in the realm of possibility, had never come up as a point of discussion. Mrs. Gerber didn't see how it could happen. Addressed issue of "empty seats", but said that looking at the number of sections was more important. A 504 school doesn't mean that there are just 504 seats waiting to be filled. Mr. Fattibene said he'd never heard that Dwight would be closed. Thought that lines could be tweaked to balance things out more. Five schools have been renovated, and many have capacity, so perhaps some tweaking can be done to balance things out. Never considered closing a school, he advocates for neighborhood schools. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly had heard that Dwight could be affected by racial imbalance, but not that it would be closed. If headroom number is not considered to be 90% then perhaps it is premature for anyone to assure the public that a school will not be closed. Mr. Corrigan said it's one thing to redistrict but another to actually close a school. Mr. Convertito said that the committee did not discuss closing a school. Closing Dwight would mean busing children large distances. Core facilities at Dwight need to be upgraded.

Sarah Weiland Hill Farm Road. Heard rumor that Dwight is going to be closed to be an ECC and offices. Believes that even those who don't walk to school still want to stay there. Addressed confusion as to what the situation in regarding redistricting, racial imbalance and Holland Hill. Doesn't understand why the Board is continuing to look at redistricting. Mr. Convertito said that his understanding is the consultant for racial imbalance will be looking at redistricting as a possible way to address racial imbalance. The ad hoc committee is in place because some Board members did not want Holland Hill and Mill Hill to be approved as 504 school projects. He made a concession to approve and be on the ad hoc committee to look at the feasibility of redistricting. Mrs. Weiland says she understands looking at redistricting in regards to racial imbalance, but doesn't understand the point of redistricting committee. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly said that the conversation on facilities started last September. All Board members agree that Holland Hill and Mill Hill need core upgrades, the difference of opinion lies in the amount, if any, of expansion of those schools. Mr. Dwyer did not advocate for redistricting, but because enough Board members kept bringing up redistricting as an option instead of adding space, he, as Chair, formed the ad hoc committee. Mrs. Weiland said that the goal should be long-term planning. Ms. Karnal said we don't have the money to do all of the projects, that's the issue. Mr. Patten said he agreed to be part of the ad hoc committee to make sure things were done appropriately, he is not in favor of redistricting. There were discussions about scaling back the Holland Hill and Mill Hill building projects, and to see if those numbers work, the Board had to look at redistricting. Racial imbalance is a separate situation. Mrs. Liu-McCormack wanted to clarify that at first the committee was going to hire a consultant, but then it turned out that the Superintendent could only be the one to hire a consultant, and said that the commission statement changed somewhat. Mr. Fattibene said in terms of why redistricting now – no redistricting is smooth, he hates redistricting. Need to look at headroom, flex space. Enrollment has dropped, if you wait too long after enrollment drops you have budgetary issues and funding issues where you may need to close a school. Not addressing issues now postpones possibly difficult decisions. Mrs. Weiland said doing one large construction project makes more sense than doing smaller ones. Mr. Llewellyn said that he's hearing that some Board members are saying this was all done to get the waterfall approved. We have slightly declining enrollment, we have closed schools in the past. Maybe 504 is too big. Need to do our fiduciary duty. The public has been whipped up when they didn't need to be. If we build everything out and then need to close that's a problem. Need to work with facts. Mrs. Gerber said it's important to look at the long range facilities plan – only Holland Hill and Mill Hill are slated to

become 504 schools. Mr. Llewellyn said that the verbalization has been for all 504 schools. Mr. Convertito said all 504 was not verbalized at the Board table; members of other town bodies have said that.

Lisa Havey, 216 Longview Avenue. Talked to points of neighborhood schools and Holland Hill being a Title One school. Please disband redistricting committee. Title One funds go to schools; if you redistrict students out of Holland Hill you could conceivably have students no longer receive breakfast under federal funding, and they may not have other programs at a new school. Try to keep neighborhood schools. It's not the Board's job to figure out the best possible solution to deliver the programs to students. Other Boards decide about how to fund. Mrs. Gerber agrees about importance of neighborhood schools. We don't have space in enough of our schools, it's a slippery slope, especially with feeder plans. Mrs. Havey thanked Mr. Convertito for taking on the committee, and thanks to Mr. Fattibene for his service.

Mr. Dwyer said he thought that as Board chair it was his responsibility to form the ad hoc committee because many Board members brought it up. He himself is not in favor of pocket redistricting. Building capacity is important to him. Each future Board needs to make their own decisions, they are not bound by what previous Boards did. A majority of the other town Boards need to be convinced that proper facility expansions are necessary.

Mr. Llewellyn thanked Mr. Fattibene for his years of experience. He has insights in the history of the district. He will be truly missed and has been an invaluable asset to the Board and the community.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly thanked Mr. Convertito. He has given his time and effort in myriad ways as an advocate for children, schools and our district. His experience as a PTA member and with different facilities committees has helped the district.

Mr. Dwyer said that he and Mr. Fattibene have had many good conversations, and he will miss him.

Mr. Fattibene said that he had always wanted to be on the BoE. He and his children both went through FPS – the system was good and is good. He has tried to be realistic and practical. We have been lucky that the town has for the most part been supportive of education. He will continue to support education.

Mr. Convertito thanked Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly for her words. He had thought his children would go to private school, but he and his wife chose to have their children attend public schools. He has made it his mission to get rid of every portable building in our schools, they are close to that goal. Thanked Jeff Steele, Pam Iacono, Kevin Kiley, Jim Walsh. Got advice from Jim Lee and Tom Flynn regarding what is important in a BoE member.

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 9-0. Meeting adjourned at 11:0PM.